

Application No.: 09/975385

Case No.: 56390US002

REMARKS**Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 102/103**

Claims 1, 3-6, 10, 11 and 16-27 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over EP 0 866 487 in view of WO 00/39831.

Claims 12, 14, and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over EP 0 866 487 as applied to claims 1 and 11 and in further view of Carre et al. (5,853,446).

Claims 7-9 and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over EP 0 866 487 as applied to claims 1 and 12 and in view of Carre et al. (5,853,446), and further in view of Chiu et al. 2401/0007682.

In response to Applicants' arguments filed 11/9/04, the Examiner stated that "It is noted that applicant is arguing an embodiment of EP 0 866 487 which was not considered as reading on the instant invention. Applicant refers and argues the third embodiment when it is clear from the above rejection that the embodiment being considered as reading on applicant's claimed invention is the second embodiments recited in page 5."

Page 5, lines 38 -51 of EP 0 866 487, recite as follows:

Figure 6 illustrates an alternative method for forming recessed pattern 5_i-5_{i+1}. In Fig. 6, frit containing material 22 is deposited from applicator roll 24 onto recessed surface 26 of intaglio roll 28. Alternatively, the frit containing material 22 could simply be doctored into the grooves 26. Recessed pattern 26 corresponds to a desired pattern for a barrier rib structure for a plasma display panel. After deposition into recessed pattern 26, excess glass frit containing material 22 is removed from the recess by doctor blade 30. In the embodiment illustrated in Fig. 6, the frit containing material 22 is deposited onto a suitable substrate 3, which preferably is a glass sheet. The frit material should preferably develop sufficient cohesiveness while retained within the recessed pattern 26 to retain the shape of the recessed pattern 26. To facilitate this result, the glass frit containing material may be hardened prior to or during deposition to the substrate 3. For example, in the embodiment indicated in Fig. 6, the carrier for the glass frit material is curable via UV radiation and the material 22 is cured via UV light 34 simultaneous with deposition of the frit containing material to the substrate 3. Substrate 3 is transparent to the UV radiation emitted by UV light 24, thereby allowing the radiation to travel through substrate 3 and cure the organic carrier for the glass frit containing material 22. Of course such radiation curing could be

Application No.: 09/975385Case No.: 56390US002

achieved by other means, e.g., by emitting radiation from a suitable radiation source (not shown) at the nip between roll 28 and the substrate 3.

All embodiments of EP 0 866 487 employ an embossing (also referred to as an "applicator") roller. Accordingly as, previously argued EP 0 866 487 fails to describe any mold, let alone an optically clear mold. In addition, since this passage clearly recites curing through the substrate, NOT through a mold, EP 0 866 487 specifically teaches away from the presently claimed invention.

As previously argued, there is no motivation to combine EP 0 866 487 with WO 00/39831 as suggested by the Examiner based on the teachings of EP 0 866 487, a prima facie case of obviousness has not been established. Reconsideration and a timely allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

2-15-05
Date

By: Carolyn A. Fischer
Carolyn A. Fischer, Reg. No.: 39,091
Telephone No.: (651) 575-3915

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833